

a¹ -- Automated software distribution systems can provide a solution to some of the aforementioned problems. However, depending upon how this is done, it can result in many additional problems.

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Amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 11 as follows:

a² -- For example, managed computers 21 through 24 are on a list of specified attended and unattended computers targeted by managing computer 20. If any of managed computers 21 through 24 are shut off, managing computer 20 will periodically check the shut off managed computer and will push the agent to the managed computer as soon as managing computer 20 detects the managed computer is turned on.

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In the Claims:

Cancel claim 8.

Amend claims 1 through 7, 9 through 11, 16 and 17 as follows:

- a³
- 1 1. (Amended) A method by which a managing computer manages
 - 2 applications residing on a managed computer, the method comprising the
 - 3 step of:
 - 4 (a) forwarding an agent from the managing computer to the managed
 - 5 computer, the agent, upon arriving at the managed computer,
 - 6 performing the following:
 - 7 (a.1) installing itself on the managed computer; and,
 - 8 (a.2) maintaining specified applications residing on the
 - 9 managed computer, including: